SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

5th Year
No 102
June 20
1971

ADDRESS :
HT 1217 B-SVN
C/O
DAZIMINA HANOI
19, *Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN*
and all RSVN Embassies,
Information Bureaux in
foreign countries

SEPT 6 1971
Cont Copy

DISTRIBUTED BY
GREAT EASTERN BOOK CO.
PO BOX 20005 HONG KONG

As long as US aggression continues we shall fight till total victory

NFL and RSVN Greetings to DRVN Leaders

Chairman **Nguyen Huu Tho** *of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and of the Advisory Council of the PRG and President* **Huynh Tan Phat** *of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam sent a message to President* **Ton Duc Thang**, *Vice-President* **Nguyen Luong Bang**, *Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee* **Truong Chinh**, *and Premier* **Pham Van Dong**, *congratulating them on their recent re-election.*

The message reads :

"In an atmosphere of great enthusiasm before the brilliant victories recorded by our entire people and the peoples of the Indochinese countries, we are very elated to learn that the first session of the National Assembly (Fourth Legislature) of the DRVN ended in splendid success and unanimously elected the State and Government leaders.

The National Assembly's Fourth Legislature composed of men and women of prestige, the best sons and daughters of the people of various strata, representatives of different political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religious and the army, many of them native of South Viet Nam, is a vivid picture, a symbol of the political and moral one-mindedness of the society in the northern part of the country. It represents the will and aspiration of our people in the North and demonstrates that they are exercising their right of genuine master of the country. The State and Government leaders elected by the National Assembly (Fourth Legislature) are close comrades-in-arms of President Ho Chi Minh and leaders of great prestige of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, political parties and other mass organizations"

The message expressed the South Vietnamese people's firm confidence that under the clearsighted leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, "our countrymen in the North will win many and yet greater victories in the building of socialism, in the fight to defeat all enemy military adventures and in the fulfilment of their glorious duty as the great rear toward the great front."

It gave the pledge to "act upon the sacred Testament of President Ho Chi Minh, overcome all sacrifices and hardships, persist in and step up their struggle for the independence, freedom and reunification of the Fatherland till total victory, thus actively contributing to the cause for national independence and peace in the world."

editorial

We Shall Fight As Long As US Aggression Continues

US-Saigon Monstrous Crimes Against City Folks

IN the conduct of the US war of aggression in South Viet Nam, the aggressors and their lackeys have been resorting to terror at the highest degree of cruelty against the South Vietnamese people, including the city folks.

Before Nixon's entering the White House, the US-paid rulers of South Viet Nam, under the label of anti-communism raised to the level of a State policy, had cracked down upon all those who were for independence, democracy, peace and neutrality. In November 1954, the leaders of the "Movement for the Defence of Peace" in Saigon-Cholon were jailed under charge of militating for peace, democratic freedoms, and peaceful national reunification through free general elections as provided for in the 1954 Geneva Agreements. Among those arrested were Dr Nguyen Huu Tho, Dr Trinh Dinh Thao and other personalities including pharmacists, jurists, engineers, bank managers, industrialists, Buddhist monks, teachers, etc...

Parallel to their persecution of intellectuals the puppet rulers struck at city students and pupils who were fighting for educational reform, against US depraved culture and enslaving policy, for peace and neutrality. Apart from isolated cases, they threw into prison 2,400 students and pupils on Sept. 10, 1963, shot dead Quach Thi Trang, a girl student, on August 25, 1963, and sentenced to death Professor Le Quang Vinh and other students on May 25, 1966.

Buddhist believers showing democratic and pacifist tendencies were also ruthlessly brutalized. On May 8, 1965, in Hue, armoured cars and 37mm guns were used against a demonstration, killing 12 Buddhists and wounding many others. On March 16, 1963 in Saigon the armed police dealt severely with a 700,000-strong Buddhist demonstration, wounding and arresting a great many of them.

As far as Saigon workers are concerned, they were made to evacuate the city and to dismantle their dwelling houses on orders from the puppet administration allegedly for the sake of "decrowding" and "urbanism." Fires were often ignited at workers' living quarters by hired agents of the authorities. In 1957 by virtue of Decree 23 dating back from 1952 in the Bao Dai period, 300 trade-unions in Saigon had to cease all activities.

To silence public opinion, the press was victimized. It is rather strange that the Saigon administration applied in this connection the 1881 press bill. Many papers were prohibited, their editorial offices ransacked; many journalists were arrested and put in jail on charge of reflecting in the press the legitimate aspirations of the people or partially revealing the defects of the traitors' regime.

All neutrality and peace tendencies were outlawed.

Prostitution was encouraged in urban centres by the US-puppets (Saigon alone has now 300,000 prostitutes). Gangsterism, banditism, illiteracy, drug addiction..., all this had the blessing of the Saigon administration.

In 1968, a very serious crime was committed by the Americans against the city folks when they destroyed through bombing more than 200 cities, provincial and district capitals and other urban centers. Many city districts in downtown Saigon and other precincts were razed to the ground by US bombs and explosives. Hue, the ancient cultural and historic city of the Vietnamese nation, was destroyed up to 85 per cent. In 42 provincial capitals and population centres of the Mekong Delta 100,000 dwelling houses were levelled and 10,000 people killed or wounded by US bombs and explosives.

Since Nixon came to power in 1959 the Saigon administration, putting into effect the US "Vietnamization" program, has been stepping up its repression against the city folks.

On Feb. 5, 1969, Nguyen Van Thieu publicly flayed those standing for peace and national independence and declared he would crush all organizations favouring a coalition government, the restoration of peace and cessation of the war. Mass arrests and condemnations took place, whose victims included Buddhist monk Thich Thien Minh, deputy director of the Saigon Buddhist Institute, Huynh Tan Mam, President of the Saigon Students' General Association, some thirty intellectuals members of the "Committee for the Formation of Progressive National Forces," etc.

Since 1969, nearly all demonstrations, rallies and teach-ins held by students, intellectuals and other social strata were roughly handled. In many instances, American MPs also waded in and on August 30, 1970, choppers piloted by Americans fired missiles and hurled toxic-gas grenades on student demonstrators in Saigon. Many students were tortured to incapacity.

Severe repression against critical papers has been kept up. In 1971, up to mid-May, the number of papers seized, suspended or fined was no less than 250. Many newspaper editors and authors of press articles were fined or sentenced to imprisonment. This happened for instance to Reverend Fathers Truong Ba Can and Chau Tin who got each a nine months' term.

Since 1969, the administration has been tightening its control on the cities. In 1969, there were more than 7,000 police raids in Saigon, and in one night, that of January 20, 1969, over 9,700 people were apprehended or searched. In Binh Chanh district (Saigon suburbs) alone, more than 4,200 people were arrested and questioned by the police. In the last days of 1970 over 280,750 Saigonese were searched and jailed. Similar actions were taken against inhabitants of Can Tho township, Tra Vinh, Hue, etc.

Taxes were raised to feed the war, sometimes 10-fold. The townspeople's living was made more difficult with every passing day as a result of price hikes. It is reported by *Look* that the cost of living since 1965 has gone up 600 per cent.

Let us mention in addition an *AFP* dispatch on March 25, 1971 saying that Saigon counted 15,000 lepers and two-thirds of the Hue population were TB-infected.

This savage repression against the city folks shows to what extent the US aggressors and their henchmen — the traitors — are clinging to "Vietnamization," thereby challenging the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese, the legitimate interests of the Americans and the aspirations of the world's peace- and progress-loving peoples.

Saigon Buddhists on a hunger-strike

IN THE CITIES

Nha Be workers' successful strike

The workers at the Nha Be petrol firm (Saigon) had been on strike since late May against the sacking of their mate Tran Minh Sang which had to be reconsidered. The action had prevented many oil-transporting flights and voyages and hampered the traffic in the city.

National culture praised

Recently more than 200 middle school students in My Tho held a summer picnic and a teach-in on "national culture." The speakers praised the fine traditional national culture and condemned the enslaving alien and corrupt one of the present Saigon regime.

Military training opposed

On May 29, the Saigon Students' Council lodged a protest against the Thieu junta's imposition of military training upon the students with a view to drafting them. The Council sent a letter to the defence "minister" demanding the abolition of school military training.

Return of puppet soldiers claimed

In Long An town, about 600 dependents of Saigon soldiers wearing mourning turbans denounced the US-Saigon sending their relatives to die for the American aggressors in Cambodia and Laos, and demanded their return home. Many puppet soldiers, people and pupils in the town supported this action.

Suicide caused by poverty

Mrs. Nguyen Thi S., a war widow, poisoned herself for she could not earn enough to feed her three children on account of soaring prices and neglect by the administration. Families of Saigon soldiers in Saigon are in a turmoil because they are facing destitution while their bread earners are sent to their death in far-away battlefields.

Hippies' festival under fire

The Pupils' Parents Association, the Pupils' Federation, the Women's Movement for the Right To Live, the Popular Front for Peace, the Movement for Self-Determination and many other organizations and associations raised their voices against the convening of a Hippies' Festival in downtown Saigon in late May under Thieu's sponsorship. The Saigon Teachers' Association and many other mass and religions organizations held a teach-in to denounce this encouragement of an alien culture to the detriment of national culture. Wrote the Dien Tin *(Telegraph) on May 29: "So they want to turn our youths into hippies with long hair and luxuriant beards always on the tramp and in search for pleasures."*

Newspapers seized

In the first days of June the Thieu clique confiscated 22 newspapers for having carried articles on the "presidential" elections in Saigon. Wrote the Dien tin *(Telegraph), one of the papers banned: "Under the signboard of democracy, President Thieu grabs all power and enforces a real dictatorship."*

"Presidential" election campaign

In a bid to appear as the only candidate to the "presidential" elections, Thieu has been trying to purge his administration from all those suspected of sympathies for his opponents. Then 12 provincial heads and 4 ministers have been dismissed, which has been described by UPI *as a move to win him more votes in the October 3 elections."*

A Scramble for Jobs in US Service

THE rivalries for Saigon's "Presidency" are continuing with growing bitterness. Out for Thieu's skin, Ky swears "not to be the Number Two of the regime." Thieu who is detaining all powers in his hands, is himself determined not to give up his post as arch traitor.

Making use of the administrative apparatus under his control, he has been doing his best to bribe MPs and provincial heads and induce them to pass a bill on "presidential elections" which will ensure his monopoly of candidacy. As reported by *AP* on May 22, 1971, he visited one place after another, pressed a lot of flesh, now inaugurating a plant, now conferring medals on fighters; he decreed a pay rise and cancelled the tax on salary, while giving additional allowances to servicemen's families. He boasted about his "land reform" and extolled his program for "rural pacification." Wherever he went, he ballyhooed his "achievements" and roused everyone against communism. He promised to bring about peace to the land through Nixon's "Vietnamization." More recently, Thieu went to the length of organizing a "hippie festival" in downtown Saigon where he gave his blessings to the decadent way of life of a segment of the youth in a vote-swaying attempt. It is safe to say that Thieu shrinks from no crafty manoeuvre to collect more ballots for himself. All this was not enough to set his mind at peace. He repressed the militant masses and his political opponents as well. 21 students, among whom Huynh Tan Mam, president of the Saigon Student's General Association, were prosecuted; Mme Ngo Ba Thanh and Buddhist nun Huynh Lien were incarcerated along with another hundred people; 70 newspapers were fined or closed down and their editors jailed. A number of MPs of the opposition were arrested and the following reason was given by *AFP*: the arrested MPs were staunch supporters of a formidable opponent of Nguyen Van Thieu in the race to the Presidency in October 1971. On June 11 last, Thieu ordered a reshuffle of his "cabinet" to eliminate those who did not stand high in his favour and to strengthen support for him in the forthcoming elections (*UPI*, June 11, 1971).

As for Ky, he was well aware that he would meet with tremendous difficulties in competing with Thieu, the chief difficulty being one threatening his own life as Ky admitted in a speech on June 2, 1971. Nevertheless, he could not resign himself to stand idle and just look on. He knew he was less favoured than Thieu in every respect, and enjoyed less trust from his US bosses. He therefore had to put on borrowed plumes and wander about trumpeting his "peace and independence" stand. Wherever he went, he indulged in anti-Americanism, heaped abuses on Thieu and took the opposite view of the latter in all matters. Posing as a man ever since honest and patriotic, he shamelessly declared that there could be no military solution to the conflict," that he was for "peaceful coexistence with North Viet Nam," that "the people's aspirations should be satisfied," and their "sufferings heeded," that "there should be some social reform and human values should be restored." He flayed "those who had built up their prestige upon support from foreign countries, which can only be transient, and is an act of treason of the people's interests" (*AFP*, June 3, 1961).

So, while chieftain Thieu lashed out at Communism, his deputy Ky advocated "peaceful coexistence with North Viet Nam." The Saigonese had heard too many such quibbles that what they wanted to ask was: Who was at the origin of their sufferings? Who called in the American troops who had been riding rough-shod on this land of the ancestors and challenging all human values? And who was the maker of the "President" and what was that President for? — This last question was purposely ignored by Thieu and Ky alike.

Nguyen Van Thieu and Nguyen Cao Ky are both very well known to the South Vietnamese people, in so far as their past records and true colours are concerned. Nobody is unaware of the fact that the US war escalation in Viet Nam began when Ky was Premier of the Saigon government. The man who insisted that the US should invade North Viet Nam, who himself piloted a plane in the first US raid against North Viet Nam, was none other than Ky (Thieu likewise called for a March to the North). On May 10 last, Ky still telephoned his support to the participants in the "parade for victory" in Wahington organized by the fire-eating Pastor McIntire. One may then ask what kind of peace Ky was preaching, if not Nixon's peace?

Whether Nguyen Van Thieu resorts to terror or bribery, and whether Nguyen Cao Ky poses as a dove or a hawk, the South Vietnamese will not be scared or taken in. They will instead realize all the clearer the ugly nature of those bandits who get at one another's throat to be US placemen.

AI THI

à la nixon

NIXON'S LOGIC

Nixon has a logic of his own. Regarding the POW issue, he said: So long as the American prisoners are not released, the US has no intention to withdraw all its troops.

This means that he will go on with his aggression. And kept-up aggression will result, as he is well aware, in the POW's continuing to be held.

It is a vicious circle: so long as American prisoners remain under detention, US aggression will continue; US aggression will continue because American prisoners are still detained, and so on and so forth.

A wag has commented that Mr Nixon turns everything upside down. There are prisoners because there is aggression; so aggression should be ended first for prisoners detained by both sides to be released.

"It's a sleight of hand he shows to the American people," another one has quipped. In fact, he never cares about the release of American prisoners and only uses this problem as a political trump-card to rouse the American people.

"NO INVOLVEMENT"

At every press conference, Nixon says to the American people that he will withdraw US troops "in good order," that is "step by step" and will end US "involvement" in Viet Nam.

However each of his promises is subject to the condition that "South Viet Nam (the Saigon regime-Ed.) must stand on its legs and must not be swallowed by communism."

In other words, so long as the Saigon administration is not viable, Nixon, will still get "involved" in Viet Nam.

However it is an open secret for Nixon that the Saigon quislings would never be able to stand on their own legs should they not be propped up by the US, unless they were turned into "robots."

When Nixon says "yes," we must understand it as "no," when he shows a card in his right hand, we must check his left hand; when he puts on the cowl, there is the devil behind.

HAI CHAU

Saigon short who's who

A Gang of Slaves of the U.S.

"If we are not the parents of little Viet Nam, then surely we are the godparents. We presided at its birth, we have given assistance to its life, we have helped to shape its future."

Senator J. F. Kennedy,
June 1st, 1956.

Here one usually regards the US Ambassador as a kind of governor general, and the US Embassy is always the political factor of all collapses of [South] Vietnamese governments.

UPI, August 17, 1965.

"The Saigon government did not want peace. The present premier of Viet Nam (Nguyen Cao Ky) could not remain in power one day except for the operations of our Central Intelligence Agency and the support of our armed forces."

Senator Stephen Young, AP,
January 7, 1966.

Without Washington, there will be nothing. Therefore South Viet Nam is not really an independent country. The Premier of South Viet Nam is more or less an official of the US.

AP, March 4, 1966.

"The Americans only want to install in Saigon a ruling clique which submissively comply with Washington's orders, and will never accept a strong government supported by the people. When the Americans deem it necessary to remove Thieu, Ky, they only have to fire a few shots in the air and stage a coup d'état. After that, a civilian government will come into being by means of all underhand schemes..."

Saigon paper *Tranh Thu,*
April 18, 1967.

"The Saigon government cannot exist even 10 days without a large number of American troops behind it..."

The Saint Louis Post Dispatch
December 21, 1967

Without American troops and dollars, the Saigon administration cannot survive 24 hours... We have invited ourselves to South Viet Nam and no one else. US bayonets are only to assist a corrupt and tyrannical regime in South Viet Nam.

Ernest Gruening,
AP, February 21, 1968.

"There is no doubt that among our leaders there exists a gang of slaves..."

Nguyen Cao Ky,
AFP, May 22, 1968

The more the Saigon government relies on US assistance, the more it loses the people's hearts; and inversely.

Los Angeles Times,
October 6, 1968.

The ringleaders of the South Viet Nam administration and army are but obedient stooges of the US.

Hestor, US Army Brigadier General,
AP, November 3, 1968.

"Thieu cannot wage war without financial and military aid from the allies, because 80 per cent of the budget and aid came from the US and the major part of ammunition have been supplied before hand by the US..."

Kyodo November 4, 1968.

The present government in Saigon cannot exist if the American troops are not there...

Walter Lippmann,
Newsweek, December 2, 1968.

Fulbright, President of the US Senate Foreign Relations' Committee, has described the Saigon administration as a kind of puppet government of the US.

Reuter, April 27, 1969.

A number of Americans regard South Viet Nam's sovereignty so far claimed by Thieu as a luxury... The militant Buddhists still hate the Thieu regime. They said as the US has rigged up the present government, it has the responsibility to replace it...

The Los Angeles Time,
June 1st, 1969.

A regime deprived of independent character and built on political, military and economic strength of foreign countries, cannot fight for the national objectives in service of the people and nation."

Saigon paper *Cong Luan,*
September 24, 1969.

"Economy Minister Pham Kim Ngoc is a lackey of the CIA. He has realized the plan to impoverish the Vietnamese people and fomented further economic troubles in execution of US moves."

Saigon paper *Dien Tin,*
March 9, 1971.

"In recent years, our authorities have poured all our resources into the war and entirely left the people's welfare at the mercy of US aid organs."

Ho Ngoc Nhuan,
Saigon paper *Tin Sang*, Mar. 11, 1971.

CUA VIET, A HEROIC BATTLE PLACE

CUA VIET is a major waterway for the Quang Tri battlefield in northernmost South Viet Nam. This 20 km-long river empties into the sea by a rather large estuary. For many years the Americans and quislings have been using it to ferry increasing supplies to their defence line on Highway 9. As their roads were constantly harassed and their air routes threatened, they had to enlarge their Cua Viet "throat" to pour military hardware from the sea into their big "stomach" at Dong Ha to supply their troops on Highway 9.

Cua Viet military port has become a big logistic base, an important communication link on this vital front. Over 80 per cent of weapons and war means in northern Quang Tri have been brought through this centre. Owing to its strategic character the Americans and quislings had taken every security precaution possible for the harbour and the transport on the river. They had sprayed toxic chemicals, cleared the riverside and deployed planes, including B.52s, and heavy guns in round-the-clock strikes to keep away the liberation troops. They had also erected a heavy network of military posts. In an area 20 km on each side, they had fielded the 2nd Reinforced Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division, the 7th Armoured Regiment, tens of civil guard companies, not to mention many units of the US mobile force. They had laid many mine-fields with explosive mines, lighting mines and sound-detecting devices, in a system of barbed wire fences running from the sea to Road 1. Moreover, they had had planes and boats patrol the area and mine sweepers dredge the river to forestall coups by the liberation troops. Along with round-ups, raids and sweeps, they had stepped up "pacification" operations to pen up the population, shifting coastal people up into the forests and montagnards down into the delta, impounding them in small concentration camps with a view to upsetting their life, thereby rooting up revolutionary bases and weakening the popular movement. However, all these stringent measures proved of no avail. Applying with imagination the abundant experience of other riverine battlefields in South Viet Nam, the northern Quang Tri armed forces and people brought their technique to perfection. Making the most of all the weapons at their disposal and devising many skilful tactical methods, all the three categories of arms coordinated their actions and turned the river into a graveyard of hundreds of enemy vessels. Keeping a close watch on the battlefield they took advantage of every flaw in the adverse defence system to strike. That is why despite all their security steps the aggressors suffered heavy setbacks. Every unity of the liberation troops was credited with feats; every month — and in some cases every day — they could sink or set ablaze enemy vessels. Setting ambushes, laying mines, interdicting the river, or using artillery, the Cua Viet armed forces and people attacked adverse crafts at any time: when sailing or berthing or even still away from the shore. Three hundred naval craft were sunk between April 1967 and May 1971, a remarkable performance indeed. One must add to it the many storages destroyed, the reinforcements wiped out and the planes brought down. These achievements were due to the improved art of fighting of the liberation troops, the traditional ties between the northern Quang Tri armed forces and people, their steadfast spirit of overcoming all difficulties and their determination to defeat the enemy to liberate their country.

With its record of 200 enemy vessels destroyed, Cua Viet has inscribed in the golden pages of the history of the South Viet Nam Liberation Army an outstanding deed. It well deserves to be a heroic battle-place.

THANH HONG

SINKING THE 300TH ENEMY VESSEL

IT was a starry night in May. Everyone in Company 2 of the PLAF in Northern Quang Tri impatiently waited for marching orders. Looking at the river and the twinkling pole-star, deputy company leader Sao said to his men: "Have a final check on your equipment, we'll start in five minutes!" Then looking up at the pole-star, he added: "Every time I look at that star I think of Uncle Ho's eyes. Look, Uncle is watching us and showing us the way to the front. He's breathing more strength into us for tonight's coup!"

The evocation of President Ho deeply moved the liberation combatants and stiffened their resolve to carry the day.

Quang whispered into Luat's ear: "You and I must cooperate closely. Let's pledge to sink this 300th as a token of our gratitude to Uncle Ho." Luat was visibly excited. He readjusted the pack of shells on his shoulders and raced up some distance ahead of his unit.

In single file, the men moved on. Political instructor Tu, though hardly recovered from a fit of fever, tried to keep pace with his unit.

Suddenly the scout group signalled back that the enemy was lying in ambush. Orders came to move on and, if necessary, the infantry would fight its way into the objective.

After a brief pow-wow, Khang led his scout group to reconnoitre the road ahead. For some time now since their disastrous rout from Southern Laos the US and Saigon soldiery had become very cautious. Every time a ship sailed into port they would send a Saigon company escorted by tanks on a road-clearing operation in coordination with "civil guards" and "popular defence" forces.

The scout group safely led the unit in after making a detour of the ambush place. Half an hour later the entire unit had moved into position and urgently prepared for the fight. Ve, a member of the operational command staff who joined battle for the first time, could hardly hide his emotion. Uppermost in his mind was the concern to see that every shell fired would hit home. He shuttled back and forth from one group to another to check the way the armymen manned their weapons.

Everything was ready. There remained now on the battleground only the command staff and the group of combatants led by Thong. The sun had risen. Before them lay the immense sea flooded with the brilliant crimson of dawn. The warship bearing registration number 1701 with its bulky hull was steaming into port like a two-storeyed house. Thong whispered to Quang and Luat: "Wait until it's got completely inside the port before opening up, boys."

Carefully Luat fitted a fuse into a shell. Quang nodded knowingly as he met the tense look of Luat. He signed Luat to step back as a precautionary measure. Calmly Quang cocked his gun and took aim at the approaching ship. He could see the soldiers on the deck gesticulating wildly as if they were celebrating a safe trip. When the ship had moved within firing range, Quang clenched his teeth and pressed the trigger. A ball of fire streaked into the hull of the craft. A big explosion shook the ground where Quang stood, causing a gaping hole in the steel monster and setting it on fire.

The enemy guns of all calibres started barking. Bullets made hissing sounds as they splashed into the water. It was exactly at this moment that Thong led his group safely back to the base. The ship went to the bottom in a few minutes. Two days later bodies of dead enemy soldiers were still found floating on the Cua Viet river.

Though exhausted, political instructor Tu managed to bring back a fragment of the wreckage with the full marking of the ship. He put it into the "Museum" of the unit to mark the sinking of the 300th enemy ship in Northern Quang Tri since 1967.

Keen eyes of anti-vessel fighters

TON DUC THANG
President of the DRVN

First Session of

THE DRVN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

★ TON DUC THANG Re-Elected President of the DRVN

THE National Assembly (Fourth Legislature) of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam held in Hanoi its 1st session from June 7 to 10, 1971, *Viet Nam News Agency* reported.

At this important sitting, all the deputies unanimously adopted the following resolution :

— Resolution ratifying the return of 420 deputies chosen at the elections on April 11, 1971.

— Resolution on the 1971 State Plan.

— Resolution on the 1971 Draft State Budget.

Vice-Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs **Nguyen Duy Trinh** read a report on the nation's diplomatic activities.

Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence **Vo Nguyen Giap** read a report on the military struggle.

The National Assembly elected the supreme leaders of the State.

— **Ton Duc Thang** was re-elected President, and **Nguyen Luong Bang,** Vice-President, of the DRVN.

— **Truong Chinh** was re-elected Chairman of the DRVN National Assembly Standing Committee ; and **Hoang Van Hoan, Nguyen Xien, Tran Dang Khoa, Chu Van Tan,** and Mme **Nguyen Thi Thap,** Vice-Chairmen of the DRVN National Assembly Standing Committee.

— **Pham Van Dong** was re-elected Premier of the DRVN Government.

The National Assembly passed the list of members of the Council of Ministers.

— **Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Duy Trinh, Le Thanh Nghi, Phan Ke Toai, Nguyen Con, Do Muoi,** and **Hoang Anh,** remained Vice-Premiers of the DRVN Government.

— **Vo Nguyen Giap** remained Minister of Defence, and **Nguyen Duy Trinh,** Minister for Foreign Affairs, of the DRVN.

— **Ton Duc Thang** and **Pham Van Dong** were elected respectively President and Vice-President of the DRVN National Defence Council ; and **Le Duan, Truong Chinh, Vo Nguyen Giap, Van Tien Dung, Tran Quoc Hoan, Nguyen Con, Chu Van Tan, Song Hao** and **Tran Huu Duc,** members of the same Council.

In his closing speech, Truong Chinh, Chairman of the N.A. Standing Committee, said: "Our National Assembly are determined to mobilize the entire army and people to emulate one another in completely defeating the US aggressors and their quislings, successfully building socialism and realizing at all costs the sacred Statement of great President Ho Chi Minh, the founder of the DRVN..."

editorial

We Shall Fight As Long As US Aggression Continues

RICHARD NIXON *has appeared more and more in the light of a hawk.*

That is no wonder for anybody familiar with his political past as a rabid cold-war supporter. Nobody placed any hope in him when, before stepping into the White House, he declared, "I'll end the war in six months." At that time he still bothered to hide his natural inclination as an aggressor and a warmonger. He spoke of "an era of negotiations" and "peace for an entire generation" with the same unction as one says prayers, sporting a dove's plumes. He even seemed to be bent on altering social thinking with a "new" doctrine bearing his own name.

Nevertheless, in two years of office and in the light of hard facts, the borrowed plumes have been getting increasingly shabby, and Nixon the dove has finally turned out to be merely a present-day hawk, one with crippled feet and clipped wings.

He came to power with "Vietnamization of the war" as his main policy. A professional swindler, he has been trumpeting that Vietnamization is a "peace policy," one meant to "end US involvement in Southeast Asia." He has gone the length of asserting that Vietnamization does not hampers negotiations, but, instead, impels them toward a successful conclusion.

By so doing Nixon just claps his mouth with his own bloody hands. Realities of the past two years and more have effectively demonstrated that Vietnamization — the core of his doctrine — is nothing less than a policy designed to prolong an aggressive war which, Americanized by Lyndon B. Johnson, had resulted in a fiasco ; a policy to expand war throughout Indochina, a criminal one carried out with most savage means. Facts have shown that Nixon has not at all "ended US involvement in Southeast Asia," that he has slipped still deeper into the Viet Nam and Laos morasses, and now finds himself neck-deep in the Cambodia quagmire. Clearly, Nixon's Vietnamization policy lies at the bottom of the stalemate of the Paris Conference.

FAR from bringing peace any nearer, Nixon's above actions have only accumulated more crimes and reaped more failures. The widening of the war to Cambodia and Laos has aggravated US losses. The use of Saigon troops in the place of GIs so as to "change the colour of the corpses" has steadily raised the former's casualty toll without very sensibly reducing—the latter's. Instead of dying mainly in South Viet Nam, American boys are at present losing their lives in large numbers in Cambodia and Laos. Cemeteries for aircraft and tank carcasses which were to be found only in South Viet Nam, also exist in Cambodia now. At the Paris Conference, if for some time before Nixon's representatives pretended to "negotiate seriously" by putting out fake peace proposals, they now have displayed their true colours as wreckers of the search for a fair settlement of the South Vietnamese issue. Nixon who has been utilizing US troop withdrawal to hoodwink opinion has even stated cynically that American forces will stay on in South Viet Nam and Indochina.

His current trumpcard is the "POW issue." He keeps repeating again and again that so long as all American POWs are not released, the US will maintain troops in South Viet Nam. That is another condition for total US troop pull-out which Nixon has put forward to vindicate his stubborn aggressive position and at the same time prevent meaningful negotiations. To the previous conditions—progress of the Saigon army, the building of a social basis for the Saigon administration and adverse activity level—he has added the "POW issue" with a view to misleading opinion, arousing chauvinistic feelings of a number of Americans, and thereby diverting the objective of the American people's struggle.

However, Nixon is obviously at the loss both on the battlefield and in his reasoning. Who can his "POW" trumpcard deceive?

It is no accident that US troops have been captured and held in detention. They have not been taken prisoner in New York or Washington, on the eastern or western coast, or in the forests of the United States. They have been made captive in American uniform while killing Vietnamese or trampling on Vietnamese soil thousands of miles from their country. They have been apprehended as troops of aggression sent to Viet Nam by Nixon. Therefore the root of the so-called "POW issue" brandished by Nixon is his aggressive policy, his war policy. That is why as long as troops of aggression remain in Viet Nam the "POW issue" will not be radically resolved on account of the said policy which cannot but make more "POWs."

Playing the "POW" card Nixon simply wants to plead for his keeping US troops in Viet Nam, on the ground that they should fight on because a number of their mates have been captured and detained in this country.

THE position of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government and of the DRVN on the question of captured American military men is crystal-clear. The Sept. 17, 1970 eight-point elucidation by the PRG pointed out that in the event the USA fixed a time-limit for troop withdrawal "the parties concerned would immediately discuss the question of captured military men."

The PRG declaration on this matter is perfectly logical and reasonable. American opinion, including that of political circles, supports it and demands that Nixon decides on a deadline of the pull-out of all US troops. At the present juncture such a date is obviously the key to the settlement of many questions, paving the way to a negotiated solution of the South Vietnamese problems.

Nixon however is making every exertion in another direction, namely, to maintain US troops, strengthen US air force and artillery and Saigon troops, glamourize and preserve the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration, etc. The path taken by Nixon is a beaten one, the path of "Vietnamization of the war," one bound to make the situation in Indochina increasingly tenser, aggravate the stalemate of the Paris Conference, and plunge the US deeper into the Indochinese bog.

The choise of this course of action depends upon Nixon himself. But so long as US aggression continues, the South Vietnamese people will resist it and, together with the Cambodian and Lao peoples, they will fight on with might and main until they drive the invaders out of the Indochinese peninsula.

SOUTH VIET NAM

They All Have Grown Up

HOA crossed the "no man's land" in My Luong village when the moon had appeared behind the curtain of coconut trees and the morning star begun twinkling over the horizon. The straight road she walked on followed a long canal with here and there small groves of *tram hau* and coconuts. The wind blew slightly carrying whiffs of subtle lotus fragrance.

A conical palm-leaf hat in her hand, she quickened her steps. She saw in her mind's eye plots grown under grapefruit trees at Duc Hoa and Duc Hue, bamboo bridges spanning canals in Long An province, white lotus in a pool (which was formerly a huge bomb crater) in front of the My Thien village school. She was recollecting her school-master who loved his profession and his pupils as much as tea blended with lotus stamens that he used to drink every morning with elderly neighbours, reciting the great poet Nguyen Dinh Chieu's verses:

For her many crossings, my boat is still staunch
Despite its numerous enemy casualties, my pen remains righteous.

But what she remembered most vividly were people of the clusters of houses in the suburbs where she had been active over the past few months: Mrs Tam and Mrs Sau—petty vendors and leaders of the "long-haired army" battling on the political front; Hai the cripple and his wife living on carp fishing; Miss Hong, very fond of rifles and an equally good motocyclist and singer... Though ordered to rejoin her army unit Hoa did not feel like leaving this desolated place which she had become accustomed to. Since the simultaneous uprisings of 1960 she had had to shift constantly from one area to another throughout Nam Bo. Such was her new life, so different from the one she had led ten years before when, still a child, she only shuttled between her house and the Tay Do primary school, or the market place where she helped her mother in selling flowers. The war had given her a hardened outlook, that of someone who had experienced many vicissitudes and also ineffable sufferings still stamped on her face. She was now a full-fledged cadre, with many assignments and people of different walks of life to look after at a time. As she walked in the vastness of the countryside, smelling the flagrance of lotus flowers and admiring white storks flapping their wings, Hoa suddenly felt as though she had become a child again and itched to skip about and sing as she had used to years ago...

ALONG its main road and under the luxuriant foliage of coconut and *mu u* trees, My Hanh had several shops selling, among other things, water-melons, beer, coffee and books. There was an information and cultural hall with a statue of hero Nguyen Van Troi placed on a high stand. Slogans hung over-head accross the road: "Let's resolutely cross US pacification!", "Glory to Highway 9 and Southern Laos," etc.

Hoa found without difficulty her friend's house at the far end of the road. When she stepped in, Thanh was changing her baby's diapers. He was yelling at the top of his voice as if angered by his mother, and wriggled as best he could. Laying him down, Thanh hugged Hoa and assailed her with questions. The latter swiftly put down her hat and bag on the bed and took the baby from the khaki hammock. Kissing him, she tried to soothe him:

"Quiet! there is a good baby!"

The unfamiliar voice made him stop crying but only for a short while. He now screamed more loudly than before.

"He's staging a protest demonstration against Auntie Hoa!", Thanh said by way of joke.

With these words she took the child from her friend and suckled him.

The house became silent again. The sun was rising higher and higher in the morning sky. A breeze brought lotus fragrance from a neighbouring pond. After some more questions on Hoa's family and work, Thanh confided:

"You know, I was delivered in an underground shelter. That day enemy warships were venturing far into Canal No 3 and mortaring this place. The next morning they came back in helicopters, a whole flight of them. Our regionals downed two: one crashed into the river, another no further than 500 metres from my house. I now understand what motherhood means in wartime and why in wartime mothers love their children so much."

Hoa noticed that her friend was thinner and paler than when they met last time, but before she said so to her, Thanh went on:

"My colleagues at the office sent me a lot of tonics, and even an embroidered pillow and flowered shirts for the boy. I'm very anxious, not about hardships to come, but about many things else. It's the anxiety of a mother in wartime."

Outside on the road young pioneers marched in procession beating their drums loudly. They were celebrating the success of regional troops. In the van a couple of sturdy buffaloes was dragging a chopper HU-1A brought down two days earlier. Awakened by the noise, the child started crying again. Thanh hastened to take him into her arms. Hoa stood up and, her hat and bag on one hand, ran the other on the head of the boy.

"Thanh, don't you worry," she said. "I'll call again in a few days."

THE noon sun was pouring down its liquid gold. Hoa resumed her walk on the stone road lined by two thick rows of coconut trees whose leaves touched across the way. She elbowed her way amidst groups of army-carriers and liberation soldiers streaming in both directions.

Thanh's words were still ringing in her head: "the anxiety of a mother in wartime!" She understood her friend's frame of mind, that of so many other mothers she had come across in the last ten years of her militant's life among the masses, and that of her own mother whom she had not seen since Thanh was bringing up her child while seeing to her resistance job, away from her husband—a soldier—fighting somewhile in Ca Mau province, the Southernmost part of the land. On Viet Nam's soil, Hoa wondered, how many wives, how many mothers are in a similar situation? They have endured indescribable sufferings and turned their anxiety into a source of strength. They have cultivated Viet Nam's tradition of undauntedness in a generation of Vietnamese—men and women, boys and girls alike—dedicated to their country and their people. They are iron bastions defending the lives of their children who for nearly twenty years have been resisting American aggression.

The sun was declining. Hoa had to go another eight or nine kilometres by waterways. Looking at a landing-place she made out some boats belonging to organs located in the vicinity of her destination. She accosted one of them and asked for a seat. Sitting comfortably at the prow, she enjoyed the cool afternoon breeze. As the sampan glided on the water, patches of gardens and small groups of houses on the banks of the canal seemed to draw nearer to one another. Animation grew with the coming of night. Columns of smoke rose from houses and faded into the sky. Girl students of an assistant doctors' school in colourful shirts clustered at some landing-places. Loudspeakers nested on tree branches began broadcasting the news.

It was completely dark when, at the end of the canal, Hoa's boat engaged in a brook. Kerosene lamps projected their light on the water. The rover suddenly pulled back his paddle and, in a matter of seconds, moored the sampan at the brook side.

Hoa went straight to a house at the entrance to the hamlet. A loudspeaker hung on a pillar was retransmitting the first news bulletin of *Radio Liberation*. The broadcast was disturbed by a chat between Mrs Tam, Miss Thuy and Thong and, now and then, by their giggling.

Hoa stepped in. Guessing the topic of the conversation, she said:

"Hear, hear!"

Cries of joy rang out. Thuy sprang up to hug the "returnee" in a warm embarce. Then she looked at her in the face, held her hands in her own and felt her all over. Hoa could not help laughing when the girl exclaimed:

"Why on earth are you so tawny? And such firm muscles too: It must be the food and the open air life in the contested areas!"

From a neighbouring house, somebody called Thong and Thuy to a meeting of the local youth organization. The latter hastened to a table and, pulling the drawer, she said:

"You've got plenty of letters. I kept them all for you."

Thereupon she left.

In a loud voice, Hoa asked Tam bustling in the kitchen:

"Where are all the others?"

"The men have left to help with an operation and the women to attend a village gathering."

Hoa sat down at the table and devoured a letter she had taken out of a stained yellowish envelope:

"Dear Hoa,

"I have been back in K.P. The situation was very tense during my first weeks here. It kept raining and the enemy sent in troops to herd the population into 'strategic hamlets'. They even unleashed pletoons of hounds and armoured cars. They fielded not only American and Saigon soldiers but also Thailand 'vipers'. Wherever they went, it was a saturnalia of massacre. With the lesson of prevention and dodging experience on which you had reported in an earlier cadres' conference, we managed to significantly reduce our casualties. As for the fruit trees, the damage was fairly serious. Of this K.P. province's luxuriant orange, tangerine, shaddock, durian and mangosteen orchards and cocohut plantations, nothing remains but barren lands as like in Ben Luc, Cu Chi.

But so long as man remains everything will remain. This conviction of our people here fires everyone to take part in the battle heart and soul, determined to depend his village, to stick to his land. For armed confrontations we have our militia, our guerilla force and regional troops. For political actions we have our "long-haired army." All localities, whether already raided or not, have fielded their armed forces. 180 American, Saigon and Thai soldiers and hounds lost their lives in V.N. and B.C. villages, 4 armoured cars pushed into Canal No 9 and 8 garrisons on Road No 42 wiped out; 30 Saigon militiamen went over to the people's side with their rifles. The liberated area has been extended up to the provincial capital. There are so many jobs to do here, perhaps as you had in the city's suburbs, at My Luong or Vuong Trau. Like you then, the members of the District People's Revolutionary Committee and I have to run from one village to another, now to receive public and private employees from the city, now to lecture at a short-term political class for village committee chairmen and vice-chairmen, now to attend review sessions on women's political movement or on the 1969-1970 school year for the three villages between Canals Nos 1 and 3.

I've seen again several of the mates who attended with us the 1962 Dong Khoi class: Huong, now commander of the city's liberation forces, can ride a motor-cycle like a circus artiste. Hanh, a mother of two, is headmistress of a provincial women cadre's school: Que has been sent to a doctors' refresher course in U Minh... More or less, each in her own way, all of us have grown up, haven't we?*

*How quickly time flew since we met at the Dong Khoi class! Then, you certainly remember, many a time, out of home-sickness we both whimpered in secret at night, wrapped in a blanket. Even now, sometimes I wonder why I-Yen**—have no wings to fly to U Minh for a swift visit and get back here, for I mean to stick to this place.*
Hope to hear from you soon and exchange more experience in work with you,

YEN"

The moon had risen high in the sky. In its silver light the slightly waving water of the canal reflected myriads of stars. The immense firmament inspired her. She too wished to have wings with which to fly to Yen's and into the vastnesses overhead.

June 1971

PHUONG LAN

---

* *Simultaneous uprisings.*

** *Her name means swallow.*

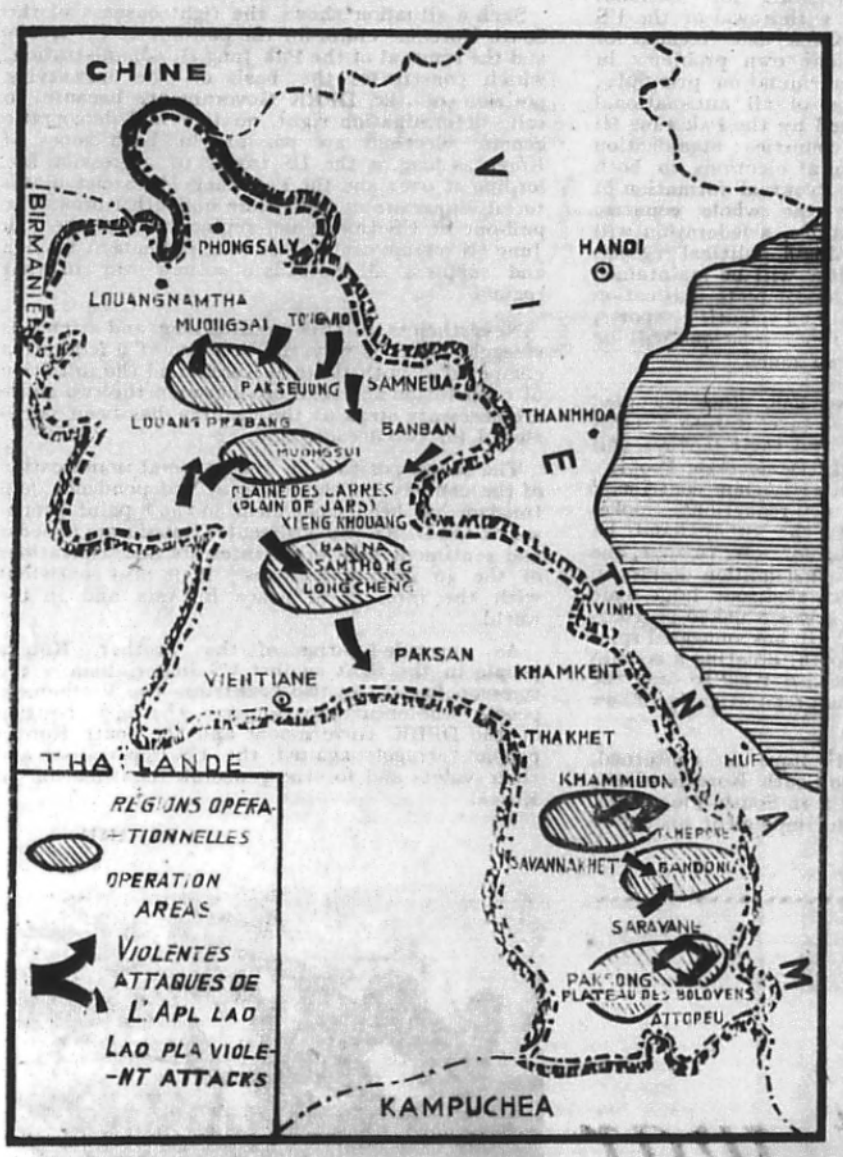
LAO PATRIOTIC FORCES' MOST FRUITFUL DRY SEASON

— **31,200 American, Saigon, Bangkok and Vientiane troops out wiped;**

— **770 military vehicles seized or destroyed;**

— **652 aircraft downed or wrecked;**

— **The Boloven plateaux completely liberated.**



KPL has just released a communique of the High Command of the Lao People's Liberation Army on its 1970 - 71 successful dry season.

After recalling the US imperialists' war intensification and expansion with Operations Kukiet, Thanongkiet, Canhakiet, Lam Son 719, mounted with a view to encroaching on the liberated zone controlled by the Lao Patriotic Front and the Lao neutralist forces, destroying the people's bases, storages, supply lines, crushing the Lao People's Liberation Army and brutally trampling on Laos' sovereignty and national integrity, the communique read:

"In face of such a serious situation, strictly implementing the High Command's dry season plan, our armed forces and people throughout the country vigorously promoted their initiative, continually struck at the enemy on all battlefields, resolutely checked all the adversary attacks, and successfully defended the liberated zone.

After the US Saigon troops' incursion into our country, our armed forces and people, acting upon our Central Committee's appeal for national salvation and strictly carrying out our High Command's marching orders, animated with implacable hatred for the enemy and a boundless attachment to the independence and neutrality of their fatherland, developed to a high degree the aggregate strength of the people's war and resolutely fought off the aggressors.

Then the communique recalled the splendid gains of the Lao People's Liberation Army in Luang Prabang, Xieng Khoang, Savannakhet, Saravanes, Siphandone, Boloven, Taven, especially on Highway 9 (Southern Laos) and the Boloven Plateaux and went on:

"According to still incomplete data, in the seven-month 1970-1971 dry season, our armed forces and people knocked out more than 31,000 enemy troops, including 10,340 Vang Pao bandits, 2,790 Vientiane men, 15,700 Saigon mercenaries, 1,898 Thai soldiers, 527 US pilots, military advisers and combatants. They seized or destroyed 16,700 arms of various kinds, including 2,020 heavy pieces of ordnance, 540 transceivers 770 military vehicles, half of them tanks and armoured cars, downed or destroyed 652 aircraft, set fire to five million litres of petrol, captured or put out of commission tens of thousands of tons of weapons and other war matériel. They liberated over 20,000 people, the whole of the Boloven plateaux, linked up the liberated zone from north to south, neatly wrote off or heavily decimated many brigades, regiments, battalions and companies of Saigon soldiers, Thai reactionaries, Vientiane men and Vang Pao's special forces.

Compared with the 1969-1970 dry season, the total number of adverse casualties in the 1970-1971 dry season was four times as many, the quantity of weapons seized or destroyed six times, the number of military vehicles blasted to pieces seven times, and the number of aircraft downed or wrecked four times."

Assessing the significance of the achievements in the dry season, the communique said:

"They were outstanding feats with a very important strategic importance. They have brought new advantages, new opportunities and new strength to our revolutionary cause. At the same time, they substantially contributed to the great successes of the fraternal Vietnamese and Cambodian armies and peoples, impelled the Indochinese revolution and generated favourable conditions for the three countries to march forward and completely foil all the warlike schemes of the US imperialists and their lackeys in Indochina.

They marked a considerable advance of our armed forces which have been growing up in the process of the fighting and winning ever bigger successes. Now we can thrash not only both the two enemy strategic forces in Laos but also the Thai main troops introduced into our country and the Saigon troops, including their most battle-tested and strategic reserve forces.

We dealt a hammer blow at the "Nixon doctrine," shattering the US - Saigon - Thai dream of conquering Laos, dampening the morale of the Vientiane troops — particularly the Vang Pao special forces which have cost the Americans so much effort —, and dashing the Nixon clique's hope to use the mercenary troops of South Viet Nam, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia with US aerial and artillery support to invade the Indochinese countries in general and Laos in particular.

As a result of their dry season setbacks the enemy have been driven into a more passive and irremediable losing posture, inner contraditions between the Americans and their lackeys and among the latter seriously exacerbated and bad has been made worse for the Vientiane traitors.

Snuol Battle, a Bitter Reverse of Saigon Troops

THE Cambodian National Liberation Army performed on May 30 a wonderful military feat in Snuol area by wiping out Saigon's Infantry Army Column 8 and Armoured Regiment and seizing or destroying all their weapons, vehicles and other war materials.

It was the most devastating engagement and a most substantial win so far of the heroic Cambodian army and people. It was the first time in their combat history that the NLA knocked out an infantry army column and an armoured regiment of the enemy in a single action, depleted such a considerable amount of their strength, captured such a large number of adverse men, captured or wrecked such a big quantity of weapons and other military equipment, and secured complete control of the battlefield on an area of hundreds of square kilometres.

It was due to the versatile use of tactical methods and extensive co-ordination between various arms and to the bringing into full play of the NLA fighters' resolve to knock out the enemy. On the one hand, the patriots' infantry and artillery tightly encircled the adversary, fought close-range actions, stormed their nerve centres, sniped at them, cut off all their ground and air routes for water supply and wounded evacuation, destroyed their storages, thereby causing to them heavy losses, serious shortages, great alarm and tension. On the other hand, the NLA deployed a large force in murderous assaults on both the enemy infantry army column and armoured regiment, killed or wounded a great many adverse troops, pursued closely their fleeing remnants and repelled their reinforcements.

The Snuol victory also brought out in relief the high commanding skill of the NLA who knew well the enemy situation, accurately anticipated their moves and the complicated developments of the fighting and held the initiative as to the choice of the place of combat and time of attack, an important factor for success.

It has opened up splendid prospects by proving the NLA full capability of quickly wiping out whole enemy infantry army columns of defensive armoured regiments or brigades, and expanding the liberated areas.

Following other successes in North-East Cambodia since February, the Snuol feat sealed the doom of Operation "1-71 Total Victory" undertaken by Saigon troops and the enemy's dry season scheme against North-East Cambodia.

Together with the gains on Highway 9, in Southern Laos and in South Viet Nam High Plateaux, the Cambodian army and people's major achievements in North-East Cambodia and Snuol area have testified to the serious bankruptcy of the formula "Saigon infantry + US fire power" and to the bitter failure of Nixon's extremely reactionary doctrine "to use Indochinese against Indochinese."

Hurrah for the NLA units in the Snuol area.

in brief ★ in brief

— On June 9, the China — Romania joint communique on the visit to China of President of the Romanian Council of State N. Ceausescu stressed that Indochina was now the main battlefield of the world peoples' struggle against US imperialism and reiterated firm support to the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos in their resistance against US aggressors, for national salvation.

— On June 9, addressing a meeting in Moscow, Chairman of the USSR Council of Minister A.N. Kosygin and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet N.V. Podgorny affirmed the all-round support for heroic Viet Nam and other Indochinese countries. "This struggle," Chairman Kosygin continued, "will go down in the history of mankind as an epic. It will be the eternal example of how a people can fight for their Fatherland with boundless dedication and self-abnegation and matchless courage and determination."

— On June 8, on the International Children's Day, the militant medical-aid campaign initiated by several organizations in *France, Belgium, England, Italy, Holland, Sweden, West Germany* and *Canada* collected an amount of medicines and medical instruments worth 1,758,600 frans for the Indochinese peoples.

— On June 10, at the meeting in Melbourne, US doctor Benjamin Spock called on all Australians for more vocal protest against the aggressive war in Viet Nam and the Australian government's sending the country's youths to Viet Nam. "All the Vietnamese," he said, "that have any guts and patriotism are fighting with the Viet Cong [NFL] that is why we have been pushed back."

— Nearly 100,000 Canadians recently signed a petition urging the US government to end its aggressive war in Indochina and immediately withdraw all US troops from that area.

Staunch support to Korean people's righteous position

AT its recent 5th session, the 4th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea called on the people, political parties and social organizations in South Korea to wage a common struggle against imperialism and fascism in order to "sweep the US imperialists out of South Korea," "frustrate the Japanese militarists' new scheme of invasion of South Korea" and "overthrow the Pak Jung Hi fascist militarist government and set up a patriotic democratic administration with a view to national concord and peaceful reunification of the country."

In this appeal, eight points for national salvation were put forth: withdrawal of the US armed forces from South Korea and freedom for the people there to settle their own problems in accordance with the self-determination principle; cancellation and invalidation of all anti-national treaties and agreements signed by the Pak Jung Hi administration with foreign countries; organization of free and democratic general elections in both zones of the country for the eventual formation of a central government for the whole country. Pending these general elections, a federation will be set up in which the social and political regimes in both parts of the country will be maintained statu quo, as transition to the complete unification of Korea; economic, cultural and scientific, sports, correspondence and family, etc.. relations will be reestablished between the two zones.

The US imperialists have long since occupied South Korea in an attempt to turn it into a military base from which they and their lackeys will eventually wage war upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Under his "Asian doctrine," Nixon has spread the US "troop reduction" smokescreen in South Korea. On the other hand, he actually is actively preparing for war. In 1971, the US granted to Pak Jung Hi 290 million dollars in "military aid." It has carried out large-scale manoeuvres (that of March 4 was a naked provocation against DPR of Korea); it has smuggled spies and commandos into the North, creating a continual tension there; it has also tried to drag the Japanese militarists into the preparation for a new war.

So far as the Pak Jung Hi clique are concerned, they have sold nearly 50,000 South Korean youths as cannon fodder for the US in South Viet Nam, served as a tool for Nixon to implement his policy of "using Asians to fight Asians" and legalized the US invasion of their country under the cloak of the "ROK-US common defence treaty" and the "Japanese - ROK treaty," which in fact allow US troops to trample freely on South Korea's territory and open the door for the Japanese and American capitalists' exploitation of the South Korean people. With American bayonets, bombs and shells, they have been cracking down on the mass movement now mounting powerfully against the fascist dictatorial regime in South Korea, US military occupation there and the Japanese militarists, and for the people's right to live, democracy and national reunification.

Such a situation shows the righteousness of the South Koreans' claim for the pull-out of US troops and the removal of the Pak Jung Hi administration, which constitutes the basis of the unswerving position of the DPRK Government, because no self - determination right, no free and democratic general elections are possible in both zones of Korea as long as the US troops of aggression are lording it over and the Pak Jung Hi fascist dictatorial clique are in the saddle in South Korea. The pull-out of US troops and replacement of the Pak Jung Hi regime can also end the permanent tension and suppress all hotbeds of a new war in that region.

Nevertheless all this requires long and strenuous struggle. That is why the creation of a federation composed of both parts of Korea, and the initiation of cooperation and relations between the two zones are necessary steps as the country has been partitioned for two decades now.

The sound position on the peaceful reunification of the country on the basis of independence and freedom has been made clear in the 8-point proposal of the DPRK Government. It conforms to sense and sentiment and to the interests and aspirations of the 40 million Koreans; it is also consistent with the interest of peace in Asia and in the world.

As comrade-in-arms of the brother Korean people in the fight against US imperialism — the common foe of the two countries — the Vietnamese people wholeheartedly support the just position of the DPRK Government and the South Korean people's struggle against the US imperialists and their valets and for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

DAI LIEN

American people *against war*

— On June 7, in Washington, at a meeting in front of US Congress and in several other places, antiwar forces consisting of traders, intellectuals, churchmen and American officials initiated an "Antiwar Week" to urge Nixon to bring all US troops home before the end of the year and Congress to cut the budget for the aggressive war in Indochina. Tens of thousands of churchmen turned out in the streets and marched to the White House to hand in a petition protesting against the US government's expansion of the war in Indochina. Senators Edward Kennedy, Mark Hatfield, Philip Hart, former US Secretary of Defense Clark Clifford and former US Ambassador to Japan Edwin Reischauer took part in these actions, to voice their opinions against Nixon and call upon American public opinion to put more pressure on Congress to pass the anti-Indochina war bills and resolutions.

— On June 9, leaders of the United Auto Workers, Federation of State, Country and Municipal Employees, Amalgamated Clothing Workers and Amalgamated Meat Cutter and Butcher Workmen consisting of over 2,000,000 members signed letters urging Congressmen to force the government to pull out all GIs from South Viet Nam by the end of this year.

— On June 6, a conference convened by the leaders of the Viet Nam Veteran Against War in St. Louis Sunday passed resolutions for stepped-up anti-war actions and called on the Americans to urge on Nixon the total withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam by the end of 1971 and decided to stage on July 3-5 an anti-war drive on the occasion of "US Independence Day" for a prompt end of the aggressive war in Indochina.

Shame on US aggressors! Belgium demonstrators trampling the US flag in protest against the US aggressive war in Indochina

SOUTH VIET NAM — CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION